



Under Secretary for Science

Washington, DC 20585

AUG 08 2008

Dr. Edward J. Weiler
Associate Administrator for
Science Mission Directorate
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546-0001

Dear Dr. Weiler:

I am writing in response to your letter describing the proposal for formulation and implementation of the Joint Dark Energy Mission (JDEM) as a NASA/DOE partnership. We understand this partnership to mean joint participation in the selection of the principal investigator-led dark energy science investigation, and in the construction and operations of JDEM.

Studying the nature of dark energy is a high priority science objective for both agencies and it makes sense for us to partner in this endeavor. I agree with the proposed fundamental points of agreement stated in your letter. We will use these, and our understanding of the partnership, as the basis for establishing a Memorandum of Understanding between NASA and DOE in the near future. The Office of Science looks forward to working with NASA to successfully implement and carry out the JDEM.

If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Kovar, Associate Director of Science for High Energy Physics, at 301-903-3624.

Sincerely,

Raymond L. Orbach

